



Illustration by Jeanne R. Janish,
From 'Vascular Plants of the Pacific Northwest'

UTRICULARIA INTERMEDIA **FLAT-LEAVED BLADDERWORT**

Flat-leaved Bladderwort is a submerged aquatic perennial with emergent flowers. Stems are slender with numerous, crowded, finely dissected leaves, persisting as an overwintering bud. The leaves are mostly 0.5-2 cm long, flattened, and have several linear divisions all of about the same width and abruptly tapering or blunt at the tip. Bladders to trap small aquatic animals for the plant's nourishment are borne on separate specialized branches. 2-4 small snapdragon-like flowers are borne on short pedicels on a 4-15 mm long, erect, leafless stalk that holds them out of the water. Flowers have an inconspicuous, 2-lobed calyx and a bright yellow, 2-lipped corolla. The lower corolla lip is usually 4-8 mm long; beneath it is a spur that is nearly as long as the entire lip; and above, a raised part of the lower lip closes the throat. The upper corolla lip is about half as long as the lower lip. The mature fruits are few seeded, dry, globular capsules borne on erect stalks. Flowering in late July.

Distinguished from *UTRICULARIA VULGARIS* and *U. MINOR* by having bladders borne on separate specialized branches rather than among the leaves, and by having flowers with a spur as long as the lower lip.